Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, On February 7, 1867, Laura Ingalls Wilder was born in the big woods of Pepin, Wisconsin, where she lived with her father and mother, Charles and Caroline Ingalls, and older sister Mary; and,

Whereas, Between the years of 1869 to 1879, the Charles and Caroline Ingalls family traveled westward in search of free land and new opportunities before settling in Kingsbury County, Dakota Territory, and it was in De Smet, South Dakota, that Laura spent the remainder of her childhood; and,

Whereas, In 1932, she published *Little House in the Big Woods*, the first of her "Little House" books, and later, Laura contributed eight more books to her "Little House" series, including five about her life in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Laura Ingalls Wilder is one of America's most influential children's authors, and her vibrant retelling of her family's travels across the prairie have inspired generations of readers worldwide to share her beloved stories; and,

Whereas, In 1957, the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society was formed in honor of the famous children's author, Laura Ingalls Wilder, who lived in De Smet from 1879 until roughly 1894; and,

Whereas, On February 7, 2017, the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society will celebrate Laura's 150th birthday and will give thanks to those who have helped keep Laura's legacy alive:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 7, 2017, as

LAURA INGALLS WILDER DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighteenth Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seventeen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State